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Agenda item 157
Financing of activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)

Financing of support for the African Union Mission in Somalia for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

By its resolution 1863 (2009) of 16 January 2009, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to provide a United Nations logistical support package to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in order for the AMISOM forces to be incorporated into a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

Pending a decision of the Security Council by 1 June 2009 regarding its intent to establish a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia as a follow-on force to AMISOM, the present report contains a request for commitment authority, with assessment, for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2009 in the amount of $80,906,900,* inclusive of the amount of $50,000,000 previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to meet costs related to the provision of a logistical support package to AMISOM.

The commitment authority is requested pursuant to section IV, paragraph 2, of General assembly resolution 49/233 A and provides for the deployment of 243 United Nations personnel, comprising 184 international and 59 national staff, in support of an authorized strength of 8,000 military contingent personnel and 270 police officers of AMISOM.

The human resource requirements have been presented at the aggregate level, comprising the additional personnel to provide logistics support to AMISOM and the existing planning teams in Addis Ababa and New York.

Financial resources[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Cost estimates (1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009)*
Military and police personnel	7 786.3
Civilian personnel	6 937.2
Operational costs	64 034.4
Gross requirements	**78 757.9**
Staff assessment income	407.2
Net requirements	**78 350.7**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—
Total requirements	**78 757.9**

[a] Financial resources include $3,994,700 in projected expenditure of commitment authority granted on 26 June 2008 and 20 October 2008 by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for immediate requirements related to a future United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia.

Human resources[a]

Category of personnel	*Number of personnel (1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009)*
Military observers	—
Military contingents	—
United Nations police	—
Formed police units	—
International staff	144
National staff[b]	55
General temporary assistance[c, d]	44
United Nations Volunteers	—

[a] Represents highest level of authorized strength.
[b] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[c] Includes 5 temporary positions in the recruitment cell.
[d] Includes 23 staff to provide planning capacity to the African Union and 16 coordination and planning staff in New York.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV of the present report.

* This amount includes expenditure for the 2007/08 period in the amount of $2,149,000 along with resource requirements of $78,757,900 for the 2008/09 period.

I. Mandate and planning assumptions

A. Overall

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/233 A, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions granted commitment authority on 27 April 2007 and 19 December 2007 in the amount of $2,400,000 gross for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008 to meet immediate needs for planning in relation to a possible United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia, including staffing to provide dedicated planning capacity for the African Union in support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Expenditures amounting to $2,149,000 gross were incurred against this commitment authority through the end of the period.

2. The Advisory Committee also provided commitment authority on 26 June 2008 and 20 October 2008 amounting to $8,012,500 gross for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 for further planning in relation to a possible United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia. On 10 March 2009, on the basis of projected balances for the period and to ensure the most efficient use of immediate resources in relation to Somalia, the Advisory Committee agreed that $4,017,800 gross of this commitment authority could be redirected as part of $43,856,300 gross in commitment authority for the immediate and critical requirements of logistics support for AMISOM.

3. By its resolution 1863 (2009) of 16 January 2009, the Security Council expressed its intent to establish a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia as a follow-on force to AMISOM, subject to a further decision of the Council by 1 June 2009. The Council requested the Secretary-General, in order for the AMISOM forces to be incorporated into a United Nations peacekeeping operation in the future, to provide a United Nations logistical support package to AMISOM, including equipment and services.

4. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to submit by 15 April 2009 a report regarding a United Nations peacekeeping operation for Somalia, to include developments in the situation in Somalia, progress towards the full deployment and strengthening of AMISOM with a view to its transition to a United Nations peacekeeping operation, progress in the political process and security conditions on the ground, in order to inform the Council of his assessment in advance of a further decision to establish a United Nations peacekeeping operation as a follow-on to AMISOM and with a view to speedy deployment.

5. In the interim and pending the further decision by the Security Council, resources are needed immediately to support and strengthen AMISOM. Accordingly, the present report contains, pursuant to section IV, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A, a request for commitment authority, with assessment, for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2009 in the amount of $80,906,900. This total is inclusive of the amounts of $43,856,300 gross granted on 10 March 2009 as commitment authority by the Advisory Committee for the provision of logistics support to AMISOM, the balance of $3,994,700 gross of commitment authority granted on 26 June 2008 and 20 October 2008 for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, and the expenditures of $2,149,000 gross of

commitment authority granted on 27 April 2007 and 19 December 2007 for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008.

6. Approval and assessment of the total amount of commitment authority, for the periods from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008 and from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, will provide for the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund to be replenished for the total of $50,000,000 authorized by the Advisory Committee and financing of the additional amount of $30,906,900 required for immediate needs in providing logistics support to AMISOM.

7. The prevailing security situation in Somalia is expected to be a long-term factor in the provision of support by the United Nations to AMISOM. Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) envisages support equivalent to that provided to a United Nations peacekeeping force of comparable size and nature. The provision of support to AMISOM will break new ground for the United Nations in the implementation of an appropriate support model.

8. The initial resourcing proposal is built around a strategy of continuing the existing supply of "life-support" requirements to AMISOM as a temporary measure while a procurement process to provide such support in accordance with United Nations standards, rules and regulations is undertaken. During this initial period, support for AMISOM would also be enhanced, where possible, through the United Nations strategic deployment stocks, equipment available from other field missions and systems contracts. A logistics and technical support function will also be required for the United Nations to sustain AMISOM as it progressively deploys in Mogadishu.

9. The provision of logistical support to AMISOM in accordance with the Security Council's resolution will be a substantial and unique undertaking for a new United Nations support office to be located mainly in Nairobi. In recognition of the scope of these challenges, the support office will be headed by a Director at the D-2 level, assisted by a Deputy Director, a Chief of Administrative Services and a Chief of Integrated Support Services, all at the D-1 level. Total staffing for the new support office for AMISOM will comprise 204 personnel, of which 149 are international staff and 55 are national staff. These staff will be able to support AMISOM as it deploys in Mogadishu to its authorized strength of 8,000 troops and 270 civilian police.

10. Human resource requirements to provide logistics support to AMISOM have been shown in the present report at an aggregate level comprising only support personnel and will be further justified in any 2009/10 budget. The staffing requirements shown here are limited to support for AMISOM forces under their existing mandate.

B. Planning assumptions and support initiatives

11. The continued deployment of AMISOM in Mogadishu, and its increased effectiveness, are critical for supporting the peace process in Somalia and creating conditions that might enable a potential United Nations peacekeeping mission to be established in Somalia in the future. Approximately 3,450 AMISOM troops are currently deployed across four battalions and a force headquarters. It is anticipated

that this will increase to 5,200 troops, deployed across six battalions, and 60 police by 30 June 2009.

12. Given the difficult situation on the ground and the limited capacity of AMISOM, the mission's activities are at present restricted largely to static protection of key infrastructure and locations and security escorts. Two additional battalions are expected to deploy shortly, and work is under way to identify and deploy a further three battalions to make up the mission's mandated strength. Nevertheless, it is likely that this needed expansion will depend on a commitment to improved and continued logistics support for AMISOM. Efforts are also accelerating to place the mandated African Union police in Mogadishu, largely to provide advice to local police.

13. The uncertainty of the security situation at present reinforces the operational imperative to ensure uninterrupted logistics support for AMISOM. Although the existing support arrangements are far from optimal, they represent the only life-line for AMISOM and will need to be maintained in the short term. This will include efforts to provide support for the increasing number of AMISOM troops and police to be deployed to Mogadishu, and also an expansion where possible to meet United Nations standards of equipment, supplies and services.

14. In parallel, more comprehensive support solutions will need to be expedited to meet the needs of the full deployment of AMISOM, in compliance with United Nations standards of procurement and logistics support.

15. While the AMISOM military and police personnel will all be based in locations in Mogadishu, United Nations logistics support will be provided from Nairobi, with a small presence in Entebbe and Addis Ababa. Further development of the support model for AMISOM will entail additional enhancements to the management of the supply chain, when security conditions improve, to allow a small administrative capacity in Mogadishu. Robust information and communications capabilities will also be critical to success in managing the complexities of the task.

16. The intended staffing of the new support office reflects capacity to support ongoing logistics requirements for AMISOM troops and police deployed at full strength in Mogadishu. Logistics support for a military and police force as large as that mandated for AMISOM will require a significant United Nations presence of a magnitude similar to that required to support an equivalent United Nations peacekeeping force. Appropriate support structures will also be needed for the United Nations staffing complement.

17. Logistics support for AMISOM will also present a number of challenges in ensuring the transparent and effective use of United Nations resources. With security conditions limiting the United Nations presence on the ground in Somalia, the modalities of accountability for United Nations supplies, services and equipment provided to AMISOM will be established in a memorandum of understanding to be agreed upon between the United Nations and the African Union. In line with the requirements of Security Council resolution 1863 (2009), the memorandum will establish reporting arrangements to allow the United Nations field office to monitor the use and effectiveness of the support provided to AMISOM. The memorandum will be based on the requirements of United Nations rules and regulations.

18. As the requirements of the support office are further developed, and experience emerges, options will also be identified in relation to shared support

arrangements with other United Nations offices and missions in close proximity, especially the United Nations Political Office for Somalia.

19. Staffing requirements for the new logistics support function also include a small team for liaison with AMISOM and the African Union to ensure appropriate support for the African mission. These requirements for liaison with regard to support for AMISOM are separate from the existing United Nations planning team of 23 temporary positions already deployed in Addis Ababa to directly provide added capacity to the African Union in relation to AMISOM. A coordination and planning team of 16 temporary positions also already exists in New York for planning in relation to a possible United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia. These 39 existing positions in Addis Ababa and New York, along with associated operational costs, were authorized in the previous commitment authority granted by the Advisory Committee and are projected to cost $3,994,700 for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

20. As the requirements for the support of AMISOM become clearer, measures will be developed as necessary to ensure increased coordination between these teams and streamlining of resources. This will be presented in the context of any 2009/10 funding proposal for support for AMISOM or a potential United Nations peacekeeping mission in Somalia. A number of other United Nations teams are also in place in Addis Ababa in the context of increased cooperation with and support for the African Union, including the Joint Support Coordination Mechanism. The roles and scale of these teams will also be reviewed to identify possible synergies and efficiencies.

II. Resource requirements

A. Financial resources[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Cost estimate (1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009)*
Military and police personnel	
Military observers	—
Military contingents	7 619.7
African Union police	166.6
Formed police units	—
Subtotal	**7 786.3**
Civilian personnel	
International staff	3 518.7
National staff	143.8
United Nations Volunteers	—
General temporary assistance	3 274.7
Subtotal	**6 937.2**
Operational costs	
Government-provided personnel	—
Civilian electoral observers	—
Consultants	145.0
Official travel	1 144.2
Facilities and infrastructure	17 576.1
Ground transportation	14 530.9
Air transportation	5 993.5
Naval transportation	—
Communications	13 678.6
Information technology	5 267.0
Medical	1 912.4
Special equipment	133.0
Other supplies, services and equipment	3 653.7
Quick-impact projects	—
Subtotal	**64 034.4**
Gross requirements	**78 757.9**
Staff assessment income	407.2
Net requirements	**78 350.7**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—
Total requirements	**78 757.9**

[a] Financial resources include $3,994,700 in projected expenditure of commitment authority granted on 26 June 2008 and 20 October 2008 by the Advisory Committee for immediate requirements related to a future United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia.

B. Human resources

1. Civilian personnel

(a) Summary of the planning office in Addis Ababa and coordination and planning team in New York[a]

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*[b]	*Total*
Planning office in Addis Ababa									
Existing positions	—	—	19	—	—	—	**19**	4	23
Coordination and planning team in New York									
Existing positions	—	1	6	8	—	1	**16**	—	16
Total	**—**	**1**	**25**	**8**	**—**	**1**	**35**	**4**	**39**

[a] This table represents temporary positions previously approved in a commitment authority for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, some of which were also approved in the commitment authority for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008.

[b] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

(b) Summary of the proposed staffing establishment of the logistics support office for AMISOM based in Nairobi

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*[a]	*Total*
Office of Director									
Proposed posts	—	1	6	1	4	—	**12**	5	17
Office of Deputy Director									
Proposed posts	—	1	12	8	17	—	**38**	7	45
Administrative Services									
Proposed posts	—	1	7	9	9	—	**26**	11	37
Proposed temporary positions[b]	—	—	1	1	3	—	**5**	—	5
Total Administrative Services	**—**	**1**	**8**	**10**	**12**	**—**	**31**	**11**	**42**
Integrated Support Services									
Proposed posts	—	1	15	14	38	—	**68**	32	**100**
Total	**—**	**4**	**41**	**33**	**71**	**—**	**149**	**55**	**204**

[a] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

[b] Includes five temporary positions for recruitment cell.

2. Proposed staffing establishment by office

Office of the Director

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	***Total***
Proposed posts	—	1	6	1	4	—	**12**	5	**17**

21. The Office of the Director provides the overall direction and executive management for the administrative, logistical and technical support provided by the United Nations to the military and police components of AMISOM, in accordance with the mandate of the United Nations support function for AMISOM. In addition, the Office of the Director will form the primary interface with the African Union, other United Nations offices and missions, the United Nations country team, regional organizations, government authorities and agencies and non-governmental organizations. The complexity of the tasks requires that the post of the Director of the new United Nations support office for AMISOM be at the D-2 level, commensurate with the level of responsibilities.

22. Reporting directly to the Director will be the Addis Ababa liaison office, headed by a Senior Logistics Officer (P-5) and the Security Adviser (P-4), as well as the Deputy Director, the Chief of Administrative Services and the Chief of Integrated Support Services, all at the D-1 level.

Office of the Deputy Director

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	***Total***
Proposed posts	—	1	12	8	17	—	**38**	7	**45**

23. The Office of the Deputy Director will be primarily responsible for managing the ongoing United Nations logistics operations in support of AMISOM, encompassing all tactical and short-term operations management functions and including the design, operation, and improvement of the systems that create and deliver support services to AMISOM. Specifically this function will be tasked with advising the Director on strategic planning and development issues and making recommendations on major business decisions; shaping and developing organizational strategy and structure; establishing performance goals which are tailored to each section and function; developing and implementing performance monitoring and reporting mechanisms; and building organizational capabilities by refining and streamlining work systems and processes.

24. It is proposed that the Deputy Director, as head of this office, be at the D-1 level commensurate with the level of responsibilities required to manage operations and coordination with the Chief of Administrative Services (D-1) and the Chief of Integrated Support Services (D-1). Reporting directly to the Deputy Director will be the officers responsible for the budget and trust fund section, the contingent-owned equipment and property management section, the internal review boards, the public

information section, the Entebbe support office and the support operations and plans function.

Administrative Services

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	***Total***
Proposed posts	—	1	7	9	9	—	**26**	11	**37**
Proposed temporary positions[a]	—	—	1	1	3	—	**5**	—	**5**
Total Administrative Services	—	**1**	**8**	**10**	12	—	31	11	**42**

[a] Includes five temporary positions for recruitment cell.

25. Administrative Services is responsible for planning, coordinating and providing administrative services in support of the logistics and technical services provided to AMISOM, as well as for the operation of the new United Nations logistics support office. Administrative Services comprises the finance, human resources, procurement and contracts management sections, as well as a temporary recruitment cell to assist in the initial establishment of the United Nations logistics support office. To coordinate and manage the activity of the assigned sections and to ensure compliance with all directives, policies and rules of the United Nations, it is proposed that the post of the Chief of Administrative Services be established at the D-1 level.

Integrated Support Services

	International staff								
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	***Total***
Proposed posts	—	1	16	14	38	—	**69**	32	**101**

26. Integrated Support Services will plan, coordinate and deliver technical and logistical support to AMISOM and support the operations of the new United Nations logistics support office headquartered in Nairobi, the support office in Entebbe and the African Union in Addis Ababa. Functional responsibilities include logistics support planning; implementation of engineering projects and maintenance of equipment and infrastructure; management of air and surface transport operations; communications and information technology services; provision of supplies; and the movement of equipment, goods and supplies throughout the area of operations. It is proposed that the Chief of Integrated Support Services be at the D-1 level commensurate with the level of responsibilities required to manage the extensive range of logistics and technical services delivered to AMISOM, including the complexities of support coordination during a transition period from donor to United Nations contractors.

27. Reporting directly to the Chief of Integrated Support Services will be officers responsible for the following sections: aviation, engineering, Geographic Information Systems, medical services, movement control, supply, transport and communications and information technology.

III. Analysis of resource requirements[1]

	Cost estimate
African Union military contingents	$7 619.7

28. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for daily rations for a three-month period for the anticipated average force strength of 4,982 troops, allowing for a 10 per cent delayed deployment factor, as well as establishment of a 14-day supply of reserve bottled water and combat rations packs. Estimates also provide for freight requirements for movement of additional contingent-owned equipment for the battalions currently deployed as the battalions are not fully equipped upon deployment.

	Cost estimate
African Union police	$166.6

29. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the phased deployment of 60 civilian police with respect to the provision of rations and travel costs based on a projected deployment up to 30 June 2009. Requirements for civilian police reflect a 10 per cent delayed deployment factor against the phased schedule of deployment.

	Cost estimate
International staff	$3 518.7

30. The provision under this heading reflects requirements in respect of the proposed international staffing establishment of 149 posts for the United Nations logistics support office for AMISOM to be located in Nairobi, with a small presence in Addis Ababa and Entebbe. International staff resource requirements cover staff salaries, staff assessment, common staff costs and mission subsistence allowances. The estimate reflects the application of a 50 per cent delayed recruitment factor against the proposed total staffing level.

	Cost estimate
National staff	$143.8

31. The provision under this heading reflects requirements with respect to national staff salaries, staff assessment and common staff costs, as well as overtime to cover peak workload periods, in respect of the proposed national staffing establishment of 55 posts for the United Nations logistics support office for AMISOM. The estimate reflects the application of a 50 per cent delayed recruitment factor against the proposed total staffing level.

[1] Resource amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars.

	Cost estimate
General temporary assistance	$3 274.7

32. The provision under this heading reflects requirements in respect of the 39 positions of the existing planning teams in Addis Ababa and New York for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2009, as well as the proposed temporary staffing establishment of 5 positions for a new recruitment cell to implement the new United Nations logistics support office for AMISOM. International staff resource requirements cover staff salaries, staff assessment, common staff costs and mission subsistence allowances. The estimate reflects a 50 per cent vacancy factor against proposed total staffing levels.

	Cost estimate
Consultants	$145.0

33. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for consultants to train troops and police on the initial tranche of support equipment including a critical strategic communication centre, aviation fire safety equipment, mobile runway lighting system, ambulance equipment and medical trauma kits. Specialized units will be deployed to operate and maintain this equipment, including specialists in signals and fire safety and medics. A programme is planned to familiarize these units with the equipment being provided, with some training potentially by the manufacturers of the equipment or United Nations staff skilled in the use of the equipment. The medical portion will be a train-the-trainer programme as the products are more portable.

	Cost estimate
Official travel	$1 144.2

34. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for official travel for regional assessment visits, meetings in Addis Ababa and Entebbe with the African Union and officials from AMISOM, and travel related to the implementation of the logistical support package and the planning support.

	Cost estimate
Facilities and infrastructure	$17 576.1

35. The provision under this heading reflects the initial stages of construction of hardened accommodation in Mogadishu to house a force headquarters and a level-II medical facility. Proposed requirements also include the acquisition of generators and equipment to support the alteration and construction of office spaces in the premises to be rented in Nairobi for the new headquarters. Also, estimates provide for the provision of kitchen and ablution facilities to support three incoming new battalions. In addition, the condition of the present AMISOM accommodation facilities needs to be improved and brought up to United Nations standards. Priority will be given to sanitation facilities in the short term by providing ablutions units for the four existing battalions.

36. The estimate also provides for the continued supply of fuel (diesel and gasoline) through external contractors, including an increase in requirements related to the additional troop deployments.

	Cost estimate
Ground transportation	$14 530.9

37. The provision under this heading reflects requirements to support the new United Nations support complement in Nairobi and AMISOM police to be deployed in Mogadishu, as well as the acquisition of specialized airfield support, engineering, logistics and material handling equipment vehicles. The estimates also provide for repair and maintenance and the continued supply of fuel for the vehicles, as well as vehicle rental until new vehicles are received.

	Cost estimate
Air transportation	$5 993.5

38. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the aircraft rental and operating costs (aviation fuel, oil and lubricants, liability insurance and aircrew subsistence allowance), as well as for landing fees and ground handling charges. For the initial funding period, supply arrangements will continue to be supported through Entebbe by way of the existing AMISOM airlift providers while the United Nations establishes its own arrangements. In addition, it is intended that a small jet be positioned in Nairobi from June 2009 to establish a 24-hour medical evacuation capability for AMISOM and to provide transport for United Nations personnel.

	Cost estimate
Communications	$13 678.6

39. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the acquisition of strategic and tactical communication equipment to enhance the ability of the African Union to communicate with the AMISOM force headquarters and to enhance the public information capacity of AMISOM as well as the various United Nations components that will be involved in executing and supporting the African Union's mandated activities. Estimates provide for 3 base stations, 211 hand-held radios, 4 very small aperture terminals, 30 network switches and 1 transportable communication tower. Estimates also provide for internationally contracted communications personnel and for communications installations and support in Mogadishu.

	Cost estimate
Information technology	$5 267.0

40. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the acquisition of information technology equipment and associated license fees for approximately 60 African Union police personnel in Mogadishu as well as 204 civilian personnel located in Nairobi.

	Cost estimate
Medical	$1 912.4

41. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for medical logistics support for AMISOM focused on developing and improving the capability of each of the contingents in Mogadishu. The estimates provide for the acquisition of medical equipment to support incoming battalions with one level-I medical facility, drugs and other supplies, and for 20 hospitalizations at the level-IV hospital in Nairobi subsequent to medical evacuations by air.

	Cost estimate
Special equipment	$133.0

42. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the acquisition of 55 hand-held night-observation devices, as well as binoculars for the troops and police personnel.

	Cost estimate
Other supplies, services and equipment	$3 653.7

43. The provision under this heading reflects requirements for the transportation of United Nations-owned equipment by air and by sea, the acquisition of various items of equipment (including personal protection gear for United Nations personnel in the event of travel into Mogadishu), bank charges, supplies and uniforms, flags and decals for troops, police and civilian personnel.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

44. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of logistics support for AMISOM and other immediate activities related to a future United Nations peacekeeping operation are:**

(a) **Authorization for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2009 in the amount of $80,906,900, inclusive of the amount of $50,000,000 previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which comprises the amount of $2,149,000 for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008 and the amount of $47,851,000 for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;**

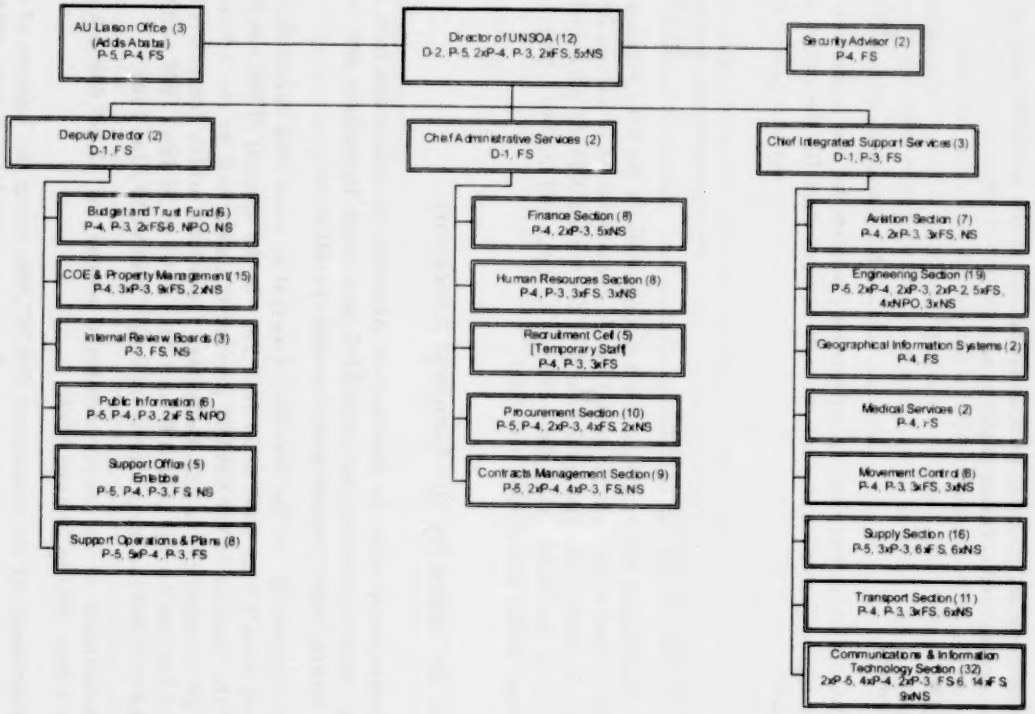
(b) **Assessment of the above-mentioned amount of $2,149,000 for the period from 1 May 2007 to 30 June 2008;**

(c) **Assessment of the amount of $78,757,900, being the balance of the total amount in subparagraph (a) above, for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.**

Annex

United Nations support office for the African Union Mission in Somalia

Organization chart



Abbreviations: AU, African Union; UNSOA, United Nations support office for AMISOM; FS, field service; NS, national staff; NPO, National Professional Officer; COE, contingent-owned equipment.

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Sixty-third session
Agenda item 23
Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 6 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions from the Government of the United Kingdom, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to refer to you the letter dated 12 February 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina, addressed to you, transmitting a letter from Eduardo Airaldi, Director General at the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, to the President of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) (A/63/719) regarding the assignment of Internet domains for the Falkland Islands and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

The Government of the United Kingdom firmly rejects the points made by the Argentine Government in this letter. The Government of the United Kingdom has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The United Kingdom supports the right of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia and the Sandwich Islands to have country code Top Level Domains to service their respective communities.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the text of the present letter as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 23.

(*Signed*) John **Sawers**

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